

WEATHER.

Fair tonight, becoming unsettled Saturday; moderately cold; temperature tonight about 10.

The Washington Star.

The Star is the only afternoon paper in Washington that prints the news of the Associated Press.

CONTAINING ON PAGE 16 CLOSING NEW YORK STOCK QUOTATIONS.

No. 18,762.

WASHINGTON, D. C., FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1912—TWENTY PAGES.

ONE CENT.

CORTLEYOU DENIES

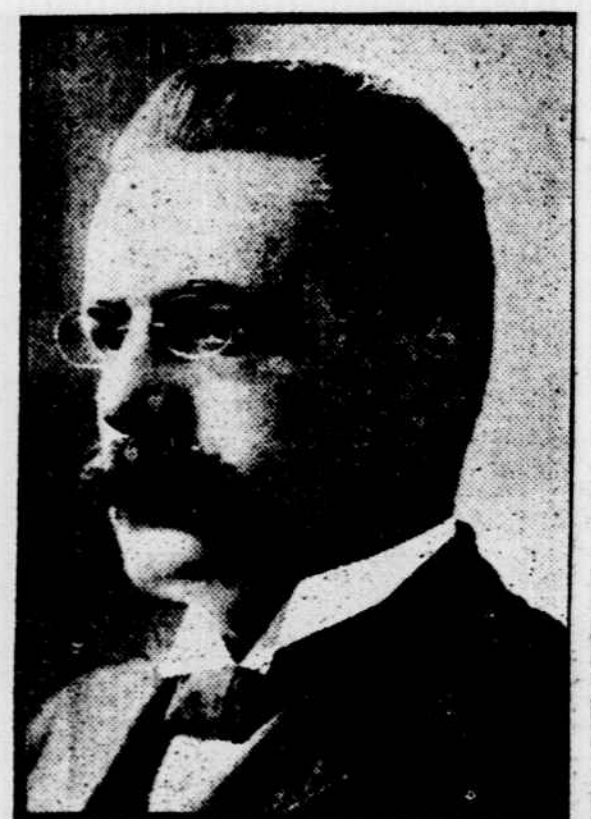
Says No Influence Caused Lewis Fraud Order.

PLATT NOT INSTRUMENTAL

Disagreement With Edwin C. Madden Explained to Committee.

ORDER OF INQUIRY REVERSED

Former Postmaster General Declares He Did Not Know Any "Express Trust" Agent.



GEORGE B. CORTLEYOU.

Former Postmaster General George B. Cortleyou, testifying today before the House committee on expenditures in the Post Office Department, denied that the late Senator Platt of New York, the express company interests or any other "extraneous influences" had anything to do with the issuance by him in 1907 of a fraud order against the E. G. Lewis Publishing Company of St. Louis or the Lewis bank.

Mr. Cortleyou was called to answer charges made by E. G. Lewis of St. Louis that the Post Office Department, by issuing a fraud order against the Lewis bank and debarbing the Woman's Farm Journal and the Woman's Magazine from second class mail privileges, had wrecked the Lewis fortune of several million dollars.

Questioned by Mr. Britt.

Third Assistant Postmaster General Britt, who represents the department before the committee, referred to the alleged Platt influence early in the hearing. "Mr. Cortleyou," he said, "it has been intimated during these hearings that the Post Office Department was influenced in its action by an alleged express company trust which objected to the proposed object of the Lewis bank to handle a form of express orders. It is further intimated that Senator Platt was instrumental in having you named Postmaster General and that the department was subservient to the express company trust, presumably headed by Senator Platt. Is that true?"

"I never heard of it," Mr. Cortleyou replied emphatically. "Did Senator Platt or the express trust bring any influence to bear whatever in the Lewis case?" Mr. Britt continued. "Not in any shape whatever," said Mr. Cortleyou.

Never Heard of Agent.

"Do you know any agent of the so-called express trust who at any time intruded himself upon the department when it had the Lewis case under advisement?" "No one ever did," replied Mr. Cortleyou.

"It has been charged in one of the Lewis publications," continued Mr. Britt, "that the express company trust owned the Post Office Department. How about that?"

"Never heard of it," Mr. Cortleyou replied. "Why did you issue a fraud order against the Lewis bank and debar the Lewis publications from the mails?" Mr. Britt asked.

"I did it in compliance with my duty as head of the Post Office Department. He added that Lewis had been given a fair hearing, and that his case had been handled exactly as similar cases always handled by the Post Office Department."

"Has there been, as charged, any feeling of prejudice or animosity on your part toward E. G. Lewis?" Mr. Britt persisted. "I never knew Mr. Lewis personally, and I have no feeling whatever against him," was the reply of the former Postmaster General.

Mr. Cortleyou began an explanation of the disagreement between himself and the late third assistant postmaster general, Edwin C. Madden, over the Lewis case. Mr. Madden is now attorney for the Lewis Publishing Company.

"The committee at this point took a recess until 2:30 o'clock this afternoon."

DROPS DEAD IN CHURCH.

Michael O'Donnell, 86, Overcome by Grief Over Friend's Death.

CHEBOYGAN, Mich., February 9.—Overcome with grief, Michael O'Donnell, eighty-six, dropped dead in church yesterday while attending the funeral of a friend. O'Donnell, one of the wealthiest farmers in this section, had insisted on attending the funeral, the deceased having been a lifelong companion. As the pallbearers were leaving the church with the casket the aged man arose, then fell back in his seat dead.

HELD IT UP AND INSULT

Gompers Resented the Suggestion That He Apologize.

JOHN MITCHELL IN TEARS

Hurt at Being Summoned for Sentence on Christmas Eve.

CLAIM FREE SPEECH RIGHT

Labor Leaders Declare They Felt No Guilt in Upholding Constitutional Guarantee.

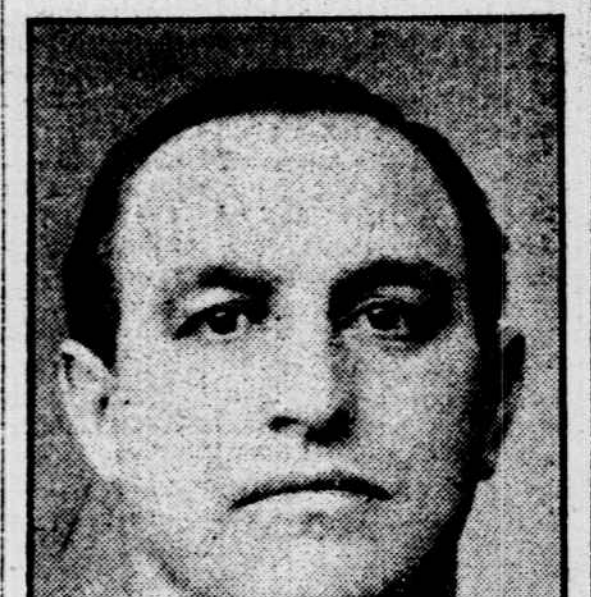
An impassioned criticism of the action of Justice Wright in imposing sentence on the labor leaders, December 23, 1908, on the eve of Christmas, despite an appeal by him for a delay because he had his grip packed with Christmas presents for his little ones, from whom he had never been separated on Christmas, was made today by John Mitchell, vice president of the A. F. of L., during the cross-examination of his testimony in defense of the charge that he is guilty of contempt of court.

Mr. Mitchell pointed out that he is an American citizen, the son of a soldier, and occupies no inconspicuous place among his countrymen, and saw no reason why he should be haled into court for sentence on the eve of Yuletide. Mr. Mitchell declared he had been able to render some service to the country, and had been commended therefor by more than one chief executive of the United States. The witness said he had sent a telegram asking for delay and had received word that his request had been denied.

Court Takes Exceptions.

Justice Wright took exception to the statement of witness, saying: "You have shown much bitterness toward the court in what you have just said, as to the effect that was had upon your personal situation at the time of the rendition of the opinion. What justification do you have for assuming that your personal and domestic situation was made known to the court. It was made to appear to the court that you assumed an attitude of antagonism toward the court in the very demand by the vice president of the American Federation of Labor that the court's opinion should be rendered when you chose to fix it. That is the attitude in which the demand reached me. I do not say you made the demand, but am stating the way the matter came to the court was with an attitude of antagonistic demand that the decision be postponed until it suited the convenience of the vice president of the American Federation of Labor."

Tears stood in the eyes of the witness as he referred to the fact that the boys and girls of his family were bringing joy and presents to his little ones to receive a sentence of nine months in jail. Because he was able to



JOHN MITCHELL.

secure a bondsman, he said, he did arrive at his home Christmas day and thereby avoided spoiling the joys of the children, from his anticipation of the Italian commanders are making preparations for more extended action.

An Insult, Says Gompers.

"I considered the suggestion to apologize to the court as an effort to humiliate me, and break my heart," Gompers said, "and as a thing that I was inclined to permit. The very language employed was an insult."

In these words Samuel Gompers, president of the American Federation of Labor, declared the evidence given by John Mitchell. The cross-examination of Mr. Mitchell was conducted by Attorney Daniel Davenport of Bridgeport, Conn., one of the committee of prosecutors.

The last witness to be offered by the defense will be Frank Morrison, secretary, who is expected also to disclaim any intention to aid or abet in the defense which he mailed if they were entitled to such privilege. When Mr. Madden sent me his memorandum I found that he had reversed the order of the inquiry and that he had first taken up the question of the number of copies entitled to admission, without going into the right of the Lewis publications to have the second-class mail privilege at all."

The committee at this point took a recess until 2:30 o'clock this afternoon.

Points of Difference.

"That is a rather broad question," said Mr. Cortleyou. "The first point of difference arose when Mr. Madden wrote the order in which I directed that the investigation of the Lewis publications should proceed. I wrote Mr. Madden to ascertain, first, whether the two papers were entitled to second-class mail privileges, and second, I directed him to determine how many copies might be mailed if they were entitled to such privilege. When Mr. Madden sent me his memorandum I found that he had reversed the order of the inquiry and that he had first taken up the question of the number of copies entitled to admission, without going into the right of the Lewis publications to have the second-class mail privilege at all."

The committee at this point took a recess until 2:30 o'clock this afternoon.

No Sense of Guilt.

"I considered the language of the suggestion of the committee insulting when I had been guilty of no wrong. If I had been guilty of wrongdoing any man or woman, or the merest child on earth," continued Mr. Gompers, "I would abjectly apologize and endeavor to rectify any wrong which I may have done; but conscious of the fact that my whole

(Continued on Ninth Page.)

LEAD SORDID LIVES

Miss Byington Tells of Conditions at Homestead.

FIRST WOMAN WITNESS

Says Slavic Laborers' Children Play Among Garbage Cans.

FOREIGNERS SAVE A LITTLE

Sixty-Five Per Cent of Steel Plant Employees Receive About \$10.50 Weekly.

Miss Margaret Byington, of Pittsburgh, the first woman witness who has appeared, testified today before the House committee on "steel trust" affairs regarding conditions at the Homestead plant of the United States Steel Corporation. Miss Byington once wrote a book on the subject.

Miss Byington's picture of conditions at Homestead was a sordid one. She told of the Slavic laborers' children playing among garbage cans and of the families living in tiny insanitary houses.

As to racial differences, she said that the American laborers spent more money on rent and the Slavs more money on their food.

"Is it possible for the American unskilled laborer or any other laborer to have, on their wages, sufficient clothing and nourishing food?"

"No."

"Is that peculiar to the steel industry? Doesn't it apply to any other?"

"I should say no man could provide sufficient for his family on \$10 a week."

Foreigners Save Money.

Miss Byington said the foreign laborer did save to go back to his native land but that more of them saved to buy houses. She said she never had seen in such places any such insanitary conditions as at Homestead.

The witness said that 65 per cent of the employees at the Homestead plant are day laborers at about \$10.50 a week. Based on personal investigation of ninety families in 1907-1908, she said that the laborer there getting \$12 a week divided his expenses in this way: Rent, \$1.88; food, \$1.16; clothing, 94 cents; furniture, 9 cents; fuel, 32 cents; insurance, 70 cents; miscellaneous, 92 cents.

Thinks Men Well Treated.

Miss Byington's investigation did not go beyond the steel company plant. Chairman Stanley asked Attorney Reed, for the United States Steel Company, that he believed the company treated its laborers as liberally as any other similar employing concern and perhaps better than some. He said he regarded the conditions at Homestead as the worst of all.

"We have nothing to do with that," said Mr. Reed.

YET IN CONTROL OF COASTS.

Turks and Allies Hold Ground In Tripoli and Cyrenaica.

TRIPOLI, February 9.—The coasts of Tripoli and Cyrenaica are still commanded by the Turks and their Arab allies to such an extent that Italian action is greatly restricted. The Italian cruiser Citta di Catania, which returned here today from a cruise along the coast, reports that the Arabs embargoed seven small ports and Turkish gunboats in the vicinity of the shore, and that large numbers of armed Arabs were observed.

At Misrata, about 150 miles to the east of Tripoli, the Arabs erected small forts, in which they took refuge during the bombardment. They also made shelters out of the sand along the dunes.

The Italian commanders are making preparations for more extended action.

OPPOSES MOUNT VERNON FEES.

F. R. Wheeler Before Legislative Committee at Richmond.

RICHMOND, Va., February 9.—The House committee on public property today partially heard F. R. Wheeler of Washington, opponent of the Mount Vernon fees, protesting against the collection of fees for entrance to Mt. Vernon and "against commercializing the national shrine."

Rosewell Page opposed any effort to recommend the repeal of the charter of the Mount Vernon Association. The matter went over for a further hearing.

KILLED BY TRAIN IN STREET.

Laborers Are Run Down in Baltimore Thoroughfare.

BALTIMORE, Md., February 9.—Joseph Costello, laborer, was killed and three other truckmen badly injured by a Baltimore and Ohio passenger train plowing through a group of street railway laborers engaged in relaying tracks at Ostend and Ridgely streets today.

An intervening freight train prevented the emergency men in time to avert the accident.



News Note: Consular Report Says That Chinamen Are Cutting Off Queues and There Is a Heavy Demand for American Hats.

ENGLAND EVER READY FOR NAVAL WARFARE

Churchill Declares Britain Neither Seeks Nor Fears a Quarrel.

GLASGOW, February 9.—Winston Spencer Churchill, the first lord of the admiralty, today attended a luncheon arranged by the Clyde Navigation Trust, and in the course of a speech painted a rosy picture of the preparedness of the British navy to meet all eventualities.

Mr. Churchill spoke at length on the subject of German and British sea rivalry, taking the view that, while naval power was necessary to the existence of Great Britain, it was a luxury for Germany.

No Cause for Panic.

Touching on the subject of the prospective naval increases in the two countries, Mr. Churchill said there was no need for excitement or panic. Great Britain had the situation well in hand, and there was no chance whatever of her being overtaken in naval strength.

Whatever happened abroad, there would be no whining in the British Isles, no signals of distress would be hoisted, and there would be no cries for help. All the money, all the ships and all the men that were necessary could be supplied by Great Britain.

Seeks No Quarrel, Fears None.

Mr. Churchill said he would welcome a retardation of naval construction, but if there was to be an increase of naval strength on the continent it would only result in foreign powers being further outdistanced by the measures which the British government was ready to take, which would enable Great Britain to pursue her path through the world not pursuing a quarrel and fearing none.

ORIENT TENNIS CHAMPION.

Carlton B. Gardner Defeats Gee in Match at Manila.

MANILA, February 9.—Carlton B. Gardner of New York and San Francisco won today the lawn tennis championship of the orient. He defeated Edwin S. Gee, who was the winner last year and the holder of the title, by three to one. The contest took place during the annual carnival at which the championships of all branches of sports were decided.

The amateur baseball team of the Waseda University of Japan has been on a visit here and played games with the local teams, by both of which it was defeated.

COASTER DIES OF INJURIES.

Boy on Sled Shoots Suddenly in Front of Automobile.

ELIZABETH, N. J., February 9.—Frank W. Denman, a nine-year-old boy, died early today from injuries received last evening when he was run down by an automobile while coasting on his sled.

The automobile was driven by George Robertson, the automobile racing driver, and in the car was Burton S. Brown, a New York newspaper man. The automobile had just turned the corner when Denman on his sled shot suddenly from under a fence which runs along the road and passed in front of the machine. Robertson tried in vain to stop the car, but the wheels passed over the boy's body.

Brown and Robertson picked the boy up and carried him to a nearby house, and medical aid was summoned. Denman died this morning. Robertson and Brown will be arraigned today.

KAISER ENTERTAINS VISCOUNT HALDANE

Gives Luncheon in Honor of Visiting British Secretary of State for War.

BERLIN, February 9.—The German emperor and empress today gave a luncheon at the imperial palace in honor of Viscount Haldane, the British secretary of state for war. Among those invited to meet Viscount Haldane were Dr. Bethmann-Hollweg, the imperial chancellor; Admiral Fred von Tirpitz, minister of marine, and Gen. Josiah von Heeringen, minister for war.

It is now generally admitted that one of the aims of Viscount Haldane's visit to Germany is to relieve the tension which has affected Anglo-German relations for some time. Nothing definite as to the nature of the discussions between the British statesman and his German conferees has become known.

France and Russia Notified.

LONDON, February 9.—It is now officially admitted that both the French and the Russian governments were informed of the visit of Viscount Haldane to Berlin by the British government before the British secretary of war reached the German capital.

It was specifically stated in the notification to France and Russia that the visit was of a private character, but it was added that in case political questions should be discussed France and Russia would be kept informed.

To Survey Political Ground.

This confirms the prevailing impression that behind the ostensible purpose of his trip Viscount Haldane is charged to survey the political ground and put out feelers, especially in regard to a possible slackening of armaments. The speech of Winston Spencer Churchill at Glasgow, in which he notified the world that Great Britain would go one better than any one else in naval matters, is thought to be part of a plan to encourage the belief in the uselessness of Germany trying to outstrip her rival in sea power.

MRS. SCHENK WANTS JEWELS.

Whom They Were Pledged.

WHEELING, W. Va., February 9.—Mrs. Laura Farnsworth Schenk has filed a petition in court here against Clem E. Peters, a prominent business man, for the recovery of jewels valued at \$2,000, which she claims she pledged with him for \$700 shortly after her arrest on the charge of attempting to poison her husband. Millionaire John D. Schenk, more than a year ago.

Mrs. Schenk alleges that Peters demanded \$1,200 for the return of the jewels, an exorbitant sum, she says, and that he refused to return them to her. She asks the court to appoint a special receiver for the property.

ELUDES MOB WITH PRISONER.

Sheriff Gets Negro Away From Milledgeville, Ga.

MACON, Ga., February 9.—Sheriff Terry of Milledgeville, Ga., left Macon early this morning with Vine Collier, the negro charged with the murder of a white girl near Milledgeville yesterday afternoon. He brought his prisoner here in an automobile after eluding a mob in Milledgeville.

Officers were afraid of another lynching in Macon, where a crowd gathered at the jail. The sheriff persuaded the mob that the negro was not inside and it dispersed.

It is thought the prisoner is being taken to Atlanta.

Rural Mail Carrier Drowns.

MARIETTA, Ohio, February 9.—While crossing the Muskingum river on the ferry here today Rural Free Delivery Carrier Leslie Burrows broke through and was drowned.

OBJECTION FROM ITALY TO DISCUSSION OF WAR

Delegates May Refuse to Participate in Peace Congress in Brussels.

ROME, February 9.—The meeting of the Interparliamentary Peace Union, which is to be held tomorrow at Brussels, is regarded here as highly important, owing to the decision of the members of the Italian group not to participate and, instead, to sever their connection with the union if the meeting insists upon discussing and condemning the action of the Italian government in the conflict with Turkey.

The Italians wish the peace union tomorrow to acknowledge that those delegates who in one way or another at the sitting of the union in October, 1911, or later, entered into a discussion of the merits of the war between Italy and Turkey, exceeded the object of the union.

Former Instances Cited.

They point out that the union has never intervened on former occasions, such as when Russia accused Japan of open hostility before the expiration of the ultimatum, when protests were raised against England for attacking the Boers, when an outcry was made over alleged Belgian cruelties in the Congo, and when Austria, notwithstanding the terms of the treaty of Berlin, annexed Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Unless the peace union agrees that neither a collective body nor isolated groups can or should pronounce judgments for or against belligerent parties the Italian group will retire definitely.

MRS. SCHENK WANTS JEWELS.

Whom They Were Pledged.

WHEELING, W. Va., February 9.—Mrs. Laura Farnsworth Schenk has filed a petition in court here against Clem E. Peters, a prominent business man, for the recovery of jewels valued at \$2,000, which she claims she pledged with him for \$700 shortly after her arrest on the charge of attempting to poison her husband. Millionaire John D. Schenk, more than a year ago.

Mrs. Schenk alleges that Peters demanded \$1,200 for the return of the jewels, an exorbitant sum, she says, and that he refused to return them to her. She asks the court to appoint a special receiver for the property.

ELUDES MOB WITH PRISONER.

Sheriff Gets Negro Away From Milledgeville, Ga.

MACON, Ga., February 9.—Sheriff Terry of Milledgeville, Ga., left Macon early this morning with Vine Collier, the negro charged with the murder of a white girl near Milledgeville yesterday afternoon. He brought his prisoner here in an automobile after eluding a mob in Milledgeville.

Officers were afraid of another lynching in Macon, where a crowd gathered at the jail. The sheriff persuaded the mob that the negro was not inside and it dispersed.

It is thought the prisoner is being taken to Atlanta.

Rural Mail Carrier Drowns.

MARIETTA, Ohio, February 9.—While crossing the Muskingum river on the ferry here today Rural Free Delivery Carrier Leslie Burrows broke through and was drowned.

REBELS GAIN GROUND

Situation in Mexico Cause of Grave Concern.

TURMOIL IN THE STATES

Federal Victories Over the Zapatistas Reported From South.

DANGER TO THE AMERICANS

United States Government in Readiness for Action in Case Necessity Arises.

While the federals have been victorious against the Zapatistas in several instances in the southern part of Mexico, according to reports received at the State Department today, it is apparent that the government is facing a difficult problem. The federal victories seem to be sporadic, and the rebels apparently are causing much concern.

Chapultepec in the state of Jalisco, is reported to have gone over to the rebels, and political things in the state of Michoacan are reported to be taking a serious turn. The destruction of a bridge at San Pedro, state of Coahuila, is responsible for a break of railroad communication between Chihuahua and Mexico City. Events in Chihuahua are turning neither one way nor the other, a communication to the State Department today from the American consul there, noting the situation as unchanged.

Escort for Mexican Federals.

Brig. Gen. Duncan has been instructed to provide an escort for the Mexican federal soldiers who were granted permission to pass through American territory. They probably will be a captain and five or six enlisted men. The arms of the Mexicans will, of course, be packed while traveling over United States territory. The soldiers will enter the United States at the station of El Paso, Tex.

The purpose of Lieut. Col. Sturgis in making a trip from San Antonio for Houston, it was explained at the War Department today, was for the purpose of gaining information for a site for the neutrality laws along the Mexican border. During the maneuvers at the border last year several members of Congress asked for troops from the neutrality laws along the Mexican border, and pointed out the advantages to be found in the way of facilities, such as water, drainage, etc.

Although troops all over the United States are still keeping themselves in a state of preparedness for a possible mobilization along the Mexican border, no orders have gone out from the general staff for actual movement.

Plans of War College.

Plans are kept in readiness by the War College here, and in a constant state of revision for mobilizations of both the regular army and the militia. It would be only a question of a few hours for the general staff to order the militia to be kept constantly prepared calling out all or any part of the organized militia which might be needed in enforcing the neutrality laws along the Mexican border or for protecting the country.

It was stated today, however, that the original plan of the War College, in the recent orders to the regular commands throughout the country to prepare themselves for a possible trip to the international dividing line, was not an attempt made by the general staff to ascertain with what promptness the citizen soldiers of the United States could concentrate, pack their equipment and be ready to entrain.

At the War College, it was declared, this government has the power to call forth the whole or part of the organized militia when the United States is in danger of invasion, and yet there is not any provision for employing the militia as a part of invading force against a foreign country.

The laws of the United States, it was pointed out, do not give the President power to call forth the whole or part of the organized militia when the United States is in danger of invasion, and yet there is not any provision for employing the militia as a part of invading force against a foreign country.

The laws of the United States, it was pointed out, do not give the President power to call forth the whole or part of the organized militia when the United States is in danger of invasion, and yet there is not any provision for employing the militia as a part of invading force against a foreign country.

The laws of the United States, it was pointed out, do not give the President power to call forth the whole or part of the organized militia when the United States is in danger of invasion, and yet there is not any provision for employing the militia as a part of invading force against a foreign country.

The laws of the United States, it was pointed out, do not give the President power to call forth the whole or part of the organized militia when the United States is in danger of invasion, and yet there is not any provision for employing the militia as a part of invading force against a foreign country.

The laws of the United States, it was pointed out, do not give the President power to call forth the whole or part of the organized militia when the United States is in danger of invasion, and yet there is not any provision for employing the militia as a part of invading force against a foreign country.

The laws of the United States, it was pointed out, do not give the President power to call forth the whole or part of the organized militia when the United States is in danger of invasion, and yet there is not any provision for employing the militia as a part of invading force against a foreign country.

The laws of the United States, it was pointed out, do not give the President power to call forth the whole or part of the organized militia when the United States is in danger of invasion, and yet there is not any provision for employing the militia as a part of invading force against a foreign country.

The laws of the United States, it was pointed out, do not give the President power to call forth the whole or part of the organized militia when the United States is in danger of invasion, and yet there is not any provision for employing the militia as a part of invading force against a foreign country.

The laws of the United States, it was pointed out, do not give the President power to call forth the whole or part of the organized militia when the United States is in danger of invasion, and yet there is not any provision for employing the militia as a part of invading force against a foreign country.

The laws of the United States, it was pointed out, do not give the President power to call forth the whole or part of the organized militia when the United States is in danger of invasion, and yet there is not any provision for employing the militia as a part of invading force against a foreign country.